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SUBJECTS :

JUAN FERNANDEZ DE CASTRO RODRIGUEZ  
ROLANDO MASFERRER

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# Memorandum

TO: Mr. A. J. Belmont

DATE: February 12, 1960

Gallahan  
DeLoach  
Malone  
McGuire  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Trotter  
W.C. Sullivan  
Tele. Room  
Ingram  
Gandy

FROM: Mr. S. B. Donahoe

- 1 - Belmont
- 1 - Donahoe
- 1 - Cotter
- 1 - Administrative Division

SUBJECT: JUAN FERNANDEZ DE CASTRO

RODRIGUEZ;  
GEORGE VALDES AMABLE;  
ROLANDO MASFERRER ROJAS - VICTIM  
KIDNAPPING - CONSPIRACY  
IS - CUBA

DECLASSIFIED BY SP8 BAC/USE  
ON 5-6-94 (JBC)

This memorandum deals with recommendations of SAC, Miami, for incentive awards and other commendatory action for Miami personnel who participated in the investigation and arrest of the subjects on 1/27/60. By way of background, Miami received information early on 1/27/60 that Valdes had arrived in Miami from Cuba and was seeking contact with local police officer who would be willing to assist Cuban agents in abducting Rolando Masferrer, anti-Castro leader. Miami arranged to have an agent, SA William B. Holloman, pose as local deputy sheriff and thereafter meet with Valdes in Miami hotel room. At meeting, Valdes was accompanied by Fernandez, representative of Cuban National Police, and Valdes proposed to Holloman to assist in abduction of Masferrer for \$25,000. At conclusion of meeting and by prearranged signal, other Miami agents moved in and arrested subjects on kidnap - conspiracy charge, a complaint having previously been authorized that day by local U.S. attorney. Subjects have been arraigned and are presently awaiting trial.

Fernandez is identical with MM 635-S, heretofore valuable security informant of Miami in Cuban field. Fernandez has claimed he had no prior knowledge of kidnap plot prior to his actual appearance at meeting with Valdes and Holloman and was, therefore, unable to forewarn Miami of plot or his involvement. His story appears plausible but it appears his arrest was unavoidable under the circumstances. (u) 2399

Bureau has received considerable favorable publicity as a result of this incident, chiefly in Miami press but also to some extent nationally. Moreover, the incident has served notice on Castro regime that U.S. will not tolerate illegal activities of this type. Miami office exercised noteworthy initiative, resourcefulness, and imagination in handling this matter and it is particularly worthy of note that the entire operation was conceived and handled in less than a day. During period of approximately seven hours Miami learned of plot, arranged to have special credentials prepared for SA Holloman in his role as local deputy sheriff, discussed the matter with U.S. attorney's office and arranged for

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Enclosures  
RDC:bcm

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See Addendum Administrative Division page 82

8/3/81  
SP1 BAI-DMS  
8/3/81

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Memo Donahoe to Belmont  
Re: JUAN FERNANDEZ DE CASTRO RODRIGUEZ;  
GEORGE VALDES AME  
ROLANDO MASFERRER ROJAS - VICTIM

105-84265

subjects' arrests if proposition made to Holloman, arranged for use of two hotel rooms (one at which meeting occurred and other of which was used for microphone surveillance), installed microphone surveillance to cover meeting, and actually carried through with meeting and with subsequent arrests of subjects. This was a complex and difficult situation. Case has its problems since informant involved and key witness not completely reliable. Nevertheless Miami acted decisively and it is clear great deal of skillful planning was afforded matter.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. SAC, Miami, recommends \$200 incentive award for Supervisor Howard R. Albaugh in view of excellent supervision of situation; excellent direction and planning of all aspects including on-the-scene direction and personal leadership in apprehension. Domestic Intelligence Division concurs in cash award, amount to be determined by Administrative Division, in line with matters of similar type.

2. SAC, Miami, recommends \$200 incentive award for SA William B. Holloman and favorable consideration of reallocating him to GS-13 on basis of excellent performance in undercover capacity in hazardous undertaking and his successful deception. Domestic Intelligence Division concurs in cash award, amount to be determined by Administrative Division, and recommends reallocation be considered in relation to over-all record.

3. SAC, Miami, recommends general letter of commendation be directed to Miami Office on handling of surveillance, apprehension and interviews in which number of Agents participated effectively. Domestic Intelligence Division concurs.

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